

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first full week back at school, I would like to feed back to you all how wonderful your children have been. They are settled, happy and so ready to learn. Some of our youngest pupils have also started and they are already so settled. Well done for helping your child to be so ready for school. On Monday we held our first whole school assembly in over 18 months and it was wonderful and I think we all felt a little emotional when we heard your children singing so joyously after months of restrictions.

### **Drop off and pick up arrangements**

Thank you for supporting us at drop off and pick up times. We do understand that new timings take a bit of getting used to. Please could we ask that you don't come into school until your year group drop off time as we are trying to avoid too much congestion. Please wait in the horseshoe area until your year group is called. The registers are taken quite promptly so please attempt to be on time as, in our experience, children who arrive late often take a little longer to settle. Please could we remind you that if your child is absent that you call the school office before 9.10am to report their absence – if they are absent for more than one day please call the school office every day of their absence.

Coombe Connections parents please could you avoid parking in staff parking bays, please use the horseshoe for parking. Staff arrive at the same time and it does make things difficult if they are unable to park. Please could we also ask that you don't prop the blue gate open, it is kept closed to ensure the safety of your children, thank you. Please could you also avoid parking on double yellow lines on Crown Road and other neighbouring roads. This parking puts everyone at risk and makes crossing the road so dangerous. We have asked the council to provide frequent parking attendants to patrol at our busy times.

### **School clubs for Year 1 and Year 2**

We are planning to restart after school clubs this term for Years 1 and 2 from the week starting Monday 27 September. More details will follow on this next week, including how to book your child's place and the clubs schedule.

### **Medical conditions and medication for your child**

If your child has a medical condition it is essential that you complete our school Individual Healthcare plan and a Permission to administer medication form should your child need medication during the school day. Please ensure that you have given any medication that your child may need to the School Office and that it is up to date and has not expired. If you have any questions at all about health conditions and medication please email or talk to our School Office staff as soon as possible.

### **Packed lunches**

Please be reminded that no packed lunch should contain nuts or any nut-based product ie peanut butter, Nutella etc. If you are including grapes in your child's packed lunch these must be cut in half as they can present a choking hazard. Packed lunches should not contain cakes, biscuits, crisps, fizzy drinks or chocolate. Thank you very much for your co-operation.

### **Dates and events**

We are really looking forward to having a relatively normal term and have attached a list of dates for various events for the first half of the Autumn term. It is so important to us all that we continue to strengthen the wonderful community spirit that we have here at Coombe Hill Infants. You will see that we are re-introducing Friday cake sales which are a long-standing tradition at our school, we have been unable to hold these for the past 18 months. Each week a different class provides cakes, biscuits or healthy snacks (homemade or shop bought) and parents from that class run the sale at 3pm on a Friday afternoon. All proceeds from the sale go straight to the classroom for resources for the children. It is a lovely event to end each week with. More details will follow from our CHIPTA (Coombe Hill Infants' parent teacher association) reps. You will see that Individual school photos are

scheduled for Monday 20 September – if this is your child's PE day please send them in to school in their full school uniform rather than their PE kit.

### **Great Big Green week**

Please follow the link to find out more about a national Green Week initiative which aims to highlight the issue of climate change and how we can get involved at a local level. **September 22nd** is a Car Free Day so it would be great if children could walk, cycle or use scooters to come to school on that day as it is so important that we teach our children about the importance of caring for the environment.

<https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>

### **Reading**

Please find attached some important information about the books your child will be bringing home very soon. Reading is very important here at CHI - we are teaching the children to read so they can read to learn and become enthusiastic lovers of books and reading. Our home school partnership really benefits the children when teachers, children and parents all work together. We teach the children the skills to be effective readers and at the same time we want to ensure that they want to read - "developing the **skills** and the **will** to read". If you have any questions, please speak to your class teacher or Sue Jakob, our Reading Lead. [CHI Website - Reading](#)

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to welcoming the rest of our new Reception pupils on Monday morning.

Warm regards  
Janet Berry